

ABSTRACT

This invention relates to a human amygdaloid nucleus-derived G protein coupled receptor protein or a salt thereof, a partial peptide of the G protein coupled receptor protein, DNA encoding the G protein coupled receptor protein, a method of producing the G protein coupled receptor protein, a method of identifying a ligand to the G protein coupled receptor protein, a method or kit for screening out compounds capable of changing the binding activity of a ligand to the G protein coupled receptor protein, a compound or a salt thereof obtained by the screening method or by using the screening kit, a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound or a salt thereof, and an antibody against the G protein coupled receptor protein or a partial peptide. The G protein coupled receptor protein and DNA encoding the protein can be used (1) identifying a ligand to the G protein coupled receptor protein of the present invention, (2) acquiring antibodies and antisera, (3) constructing the expression system for the recombinant receptor protein, (4) developing receptor binding assay systems using the expression system, and screening out candidate drug substances, (5) drug designing based on comparison with structurally similar ligands and receptors, (6) construction of probes and PCR primers for gene diagnosis, and (7) gene therapy, among others. In particular, elucidation of the structure and properties of the G protein coupled receptor will result in development of a unique drug acting on these systems.

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